

09-20-01

GAU 1633
SEP 18 2001



410.015

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : D. Nguyen
MIDOUX et al : Group: 1633
Serial No.: 297,519
Filed: May 3, 1999
For: NOVEL POLYMERIC...MEMBRANES

600 Third Avenue
New York N.Y. 10016
September 19, 2001

AMENDMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the office action of July 31, 2001, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 45 (amended) A complex comprised of at least one negatively charged nucleic acid and at least one positively charged polymeric conjugate with the bond therebetween being electrostatic in nature,

the polymeric conjugate containing a polylysine formed from monomers having free NH₃⁺ groups,

at least 10% of free NH₃⁺ groups of the said polylysine are substituted by residues which can be protonated in a weakly acid medium causing destabilization of cell membranes,

and optionally at least one free NH₃⁺ group of the said polylysine is substituted by a molecule with a recognition signal recognized by a cell membrane receptor,

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